

CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented). A method for installation of a pier in a soil matrix comprising, in combination, the steps of:
 - a) positioning a hollow tube having a longitudinal dimension and a lateral dimension in a soil matrix, said hollow tube including a hollow core and an open lower end, said hollow tube core being thereby filled with said soil matrix;
 - b) removing the soil matrix from the hollow core;
 - c) inserting aggregate materials into the hollow tube core;
 - d) moving the hollow tube an incremental step from the soil matrix and simultaneously imparting lateral forces and longitudinal forces on the materials discharged from the open end of the hollow tube by such hollow tube movement to thereby form a compacted lift as the hollow tube is removed in said incremental step from the soil matrix; and
 - e) repeating step c) and d).
2. (Previously Presented). The method of Claim 1 including placement of a separate mechanical member in the hollow tube core extending substantially the longitudinal length of the hollow tube and moving the mechanical member longitudinally and laterally to effect compaction of material discharged from the hollow tube core.
3. (Cancelled).
4. (Original). The method of claim 1 wherein the hollow tube apparatus is formed with an inwardly beveled lower edge end;
5. (Original). The method of claim 1 wherein the hollow tube apparatus includes a mechanical portion with a lower peripheral surface defining an angle intermediate the longitudinal and lateral directions.

6. (Currently Amended). The method of claim 1 including wherein the step of imparting forces includes vibrating the hollow tube apparatus.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the hollow tube apparatus is cylindrical.
8. (Previously Presented). The method of claim 1 wherein the hollow tube apparatus includes a uniform diameter hollow core, and an internal rim at the bottom of the hollow tube beveled inwardly.
9. (Cancelled).
10. (Cancelled).
11. (Cancelled).
12. (Currently Amended). A pier formed by the process of any one of the claims 1, 2 and 4-8.